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YELLOW FEVER.

In Mexico yellow fever has been present in Merida since August 1, 1911. During this time there have been reported 68 cases with 32 deaths. In San Juan Bautista in the State of Tabasco, there were between May 4 and August 10, 1912, a total of 53 cases of yellow fever with 22 deaths reported. The disease has now made its appearance in Frontera, a port of Tabasco, 55 miles from San Juan Bautista. It presumably was carried from San Juan Bautista by troops transferred to Frontera, where it is reported to be now epidemic. Acting Asst. Surg. J. F. Eaves has been assigned to temporary duty in the American consulate at Frontera for the purpose of fumigating vessels and performing other necessary quarantine work on vessels prior to their departure for United States ports.

In Brazil cases have, during the summer, appeared in Manaos and Pernambuco. In Chile a severe epidemic has occurred at Tocopilla. Cases have also occurred in Colombia. In Ecuador the disease has been present in a number of localities. It has also been reported in Peru at Iquitos, where the disease has been endemic for years. It has also been present in a number of localities in Venezuela.

There are localities in tropical South America and on the west coast of Africa, and undoubtedly also in Central America and southern Mexico, where yellow fever is endemic and has become a disease of childhood. Native adults in these localities usually possess an immunity acquired by infection in early life. The disease, however, exacts a heavy toll among nonimmunes coming from uninfected territory, and these endemic foci are a constant menace to all infectible localities having commercial relations with them.

CHOLERA.

Cholera has been reported on the island of Sardinia. The cases, it is stated, have been confined to the Province of Cagliari, where, from August 14 to 27, there were officially reported 16 cases with 5 deaths. Inasmuch as a large number of immigrants come from southern Italy to the United States, the quarantine officers at the ports at which vessels arrive from there have been notified of the occurrence of cholera and instructed to make careful examinations of all vessels coming from Italian ports.

In Russia, from July 14 to 27, cholera was reported as follows:

The city of Astrakhan, 4 cases; the city of Vitebsk, 9 cases; the district of Vitebsk, 2 cases.

Cholera is also present at Beirut, Syria.

A NOTE ON ACID-FAST BACILLI IN HEAD LICE (PEDICULUS CAPITIS).

By GEORGE W. MCCOY, Passed Assistant Surgeon, Director, and MOSES T. CLEGG, Assistant Director, Leprosy Investigation Station, United States Public Health Service, Honolulu, H. T.

Several observers have reported the presence of acid-fast bacilli in various insects taken from lepers. With the exception of Ehlers, Bourret and With¹ who report doubtful organisms of this nature in

¹ Ehlers, Bourret and With, "Rapport d'ensemble sur les travaux de la Mission dano-française d'étude de la Lèpre aux Antilles danoises 1909," Archiv für Dermatologie und Syphilis, vol. 106, p. 193.